

# **DROUGHT FLASH APPEAL**

## ZIMBABWE

MAY 2024 - APRIL 2025

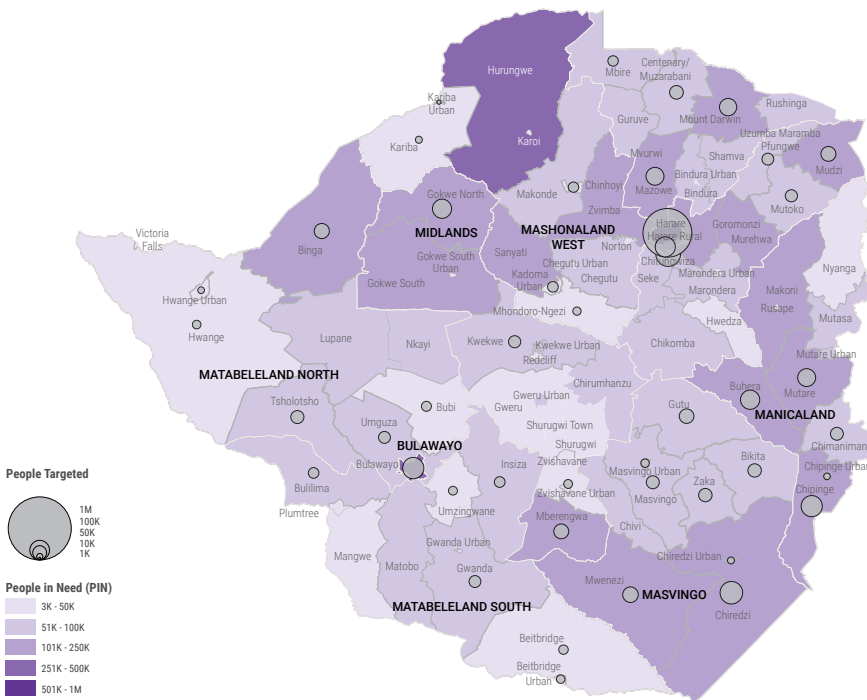
PUBLISHED IN MAY 2024



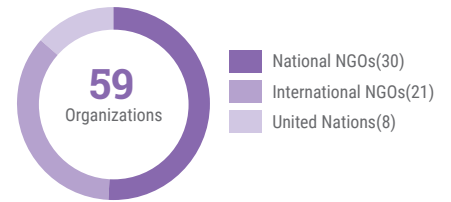
# Drought Flash Appeal at a Glance

PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	REQUIREMENTS(USD)	PARTNERS	PROJECTS
7.6M	3.1M	\$429.3M	59	56

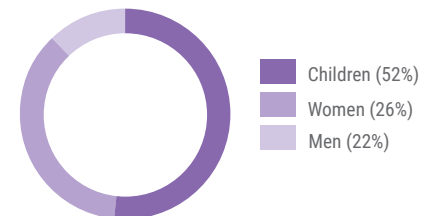
## People in Need and Targeted by District



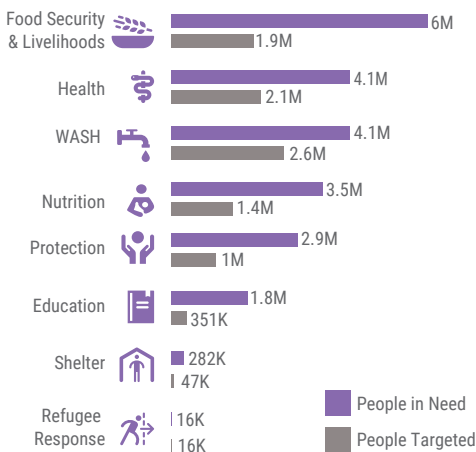
## Operational Partners



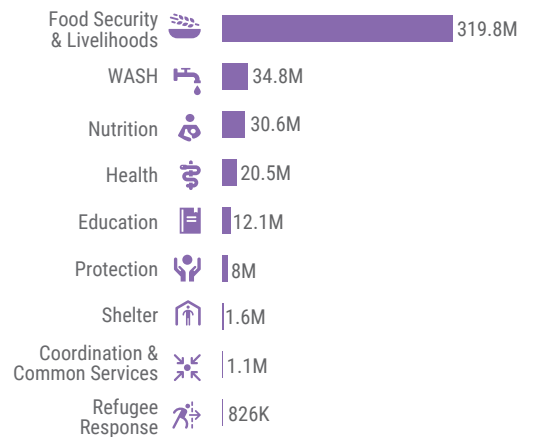
## People Targeted by Gender and Age



## People in Need and Targeted by Sector



## Funding Requirements by Sector (US\$)



# Table of contents

---

<b>02</b>	<b>Drought Response at a Glance</b>
<b>04</b>	<b>Foreword by the United Nations Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator</b>
<b>05</b>	<b>Part 1: Overview of the Situation</b>
<b>08</b>	<b>Part 2: Response Strategy and Coordination</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Part 3: Operational Capacity, Access, Feasibility, Costing &amp; Monitoring</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Part 4: Sectoral Objectives and Response</b>
16	Education
18	Food Security
22	Health
25	Nutrition
28	Protection
29	Child Protection
32	Gender Based Violence
33	Shelter
35	Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)
37	Refugee Response
<b>39</b>	<b>Part 5: Annexes</b>
40	Projects
43	Acronyms

## **COVER PHOTO**

February 2024 in Zvimba district - wilting and forced to mature maize crop.  
Photo: Earth Observation for Agricultural Statistics (EOASTAT) Zimbabwe

# Foreword by the United Nations Resident/ Humanitarian Coordinator

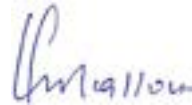
During the El-Niño-induced drought in Zimbabwe, a total population of **7.6 million people** urgently requires lifesaving and life-sustaining humanitarian assistance and protection support, as well as livelihood support, so that they may recover their losses, rebuild resilience, and access basic services. Since December 2023, subsequent long dry spells, and high temperatures, coupled with poor rainfall performance, pushed the value of crop and livestock production to a very low. Estimates for the 2024 crop season are of about 700,000 metric tons (mts) of maize, out of an annual requirement of 2.2 million mts. More than 1.4 million cattle risks to suffer deteriorating conditions or starve, amid lack of food and pasture. The impacts of El Niño have negatively affected local production, with estimates of a 52 per cent shortfall. According to the Crop, Livestock and Fisheries Assessment Report (CLAFRA 1), the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture Fisheries and Rural Development Zimbabwe's found that crop production was negatively affected: 40 per cent of maize crops was classified as 'poor', and 60 per cent as 'a write off'. As cattle herds converge in search of forage and water, livestock diseases have increased. The livestock sector risks being seriously affected, in the coming winter months between June to October, due to very poor pasture quality and lack of drinking water.

To respond to the scenario, this Flash Appeal requires **US\$429.3 million** for humanitarian partners to target close to **3.1 million people**. The appeal aims to mobilize humanitarian action in support of the Government-led response and is directly complementing the Government's own relief efforts. We have ensured that this appeal is prioritized and principled, and we are confident that the activities planned are the most urgently needed to deliver immediate relief to the people

who need it the most. In implementing this appeal, the UN and humanitarian partners are committed to ensuring that the humanitarian principles of impartiality, neutrality, independence, and humanity are fully respected. In issuing this appeal, I am conscious that humanitarian assistance is not a long-term solution to the recurrent climatic shocks that continue to increase in frequency and intensity in Zimbabwe and across the region. With the global climate crisis impacting, Zimbabwe usually not spared, intensive efforts are required to ensure that people across the country are able to withstand growing climatic shocks, as well as to tackle inequality and poverty, as highlighted in the country's National Resilience Strategy.

The UN and our partners are fully committed to supporting the Government to build resilience and implement climate resilient development. However, while longer-term efforts to address these extremely complex challenges are vital, we are faced today with an urgent need to act swiftly to save the lives and livelihoods of those whose crops and livestock have been upended by El Nio drought. I therefore call on the international community to show solidarity with the people of Zimbabwe at this extremely challenging time and to stand with us as we step-up our response to this devastating event.

**Edward Matthew Kallon**



**UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator**

# Part 1: Overview of the Situation

---

## MASVINGO, ZIMBABWE

Lead mother from Care Group in Chiredzi Masvingo walks through dry community gardens which have not received adequate rainfall.  
Photo: © UNICEF/RBAMHARE



## Context Overview

**Zimbabwe is one of the countries in the region's vulnerable agricultural belt** and has frequently experienced the detrimental effects of El Niño in the past from 1982 to the present.

**El Niño events have recurred irregularly, appearing every two to six years.** Historically, El Niño events in Zimbabwe have been linked to disruptions of climatic patterns, including rainfall, resulting in both localized and widespread impacts on livelihoods and ecosystems. El Niño is a climatic phenomenon characterized by the warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean.

**In Zimbabwe, El Niño events have been associated with prolonged dry spells, reduced rainfall, and increased temperatures.** These conditions often lead to droughts, water shortages, and crop failures, posing significant challenges to health, agriculture, and food security in the country. Despite receiving average rainfall across most of the main maize planting areas in late December and early January, most of the country experienced a catastrophic dry spell, lasting more than 30 days, in February 2024.

**An estimated population of 6 million are expected to be food insecure** in Zimbabwe during 2024-2025 lean season (January to March). The current El Niño induced drought is expected to impact the food and nutrition security situation, reducing food access and diversity, and thereby the overall quality of people's diets. Poor rainfall led to partial or complete crop failure in most parts of the country—40 per cent poor and 60 per cent written-off<sup>1</sup> (i.e. completely lost). El Niño drought is exacerbating existing socio-economic vulnerabilities, particularly in rural communities who are reliant on rain-fed agriculture.

**The drought will only further worsen water shortages in Zimbabwe, exposing 2.6 million people to water insecurity.** According to the 2023 Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) Report; even before the drought, 35 per cent of rural households were accessing inadequate water services, while forty-five per cent of rural households were travelling more than half a kilometer to fetch water. El Niño has significantly increased the risk that even more people will be faced with water insecurity leading to longer distances and

Moreso, another 46 per cent of households do not use basic sanitation services (Rural ZIMVAC, 2023). Drought will increase the likelihood of poor hygiene practices and the risk of infectious and waterborne disease outbreaks, as the country is already battling with a cholera outbreak, linked to poor water, hygiene, and sanitation (WASH) service delivery. The current cholera outbreak in Zimbabwe, initially originated in February 2023, is still active in more than 50 districts. As of 8 April 2024, 31,391 cases and 591 deaths have been reported (2.2 per cent case fatality rate). Addressing critical water, sanitation, and hygiene challenges, through community engagement and participation, protection across WASH and Health, sector, and the capacity of the district Rapid Response Teams, will strengthen the country's resilience and response capacity against future health risks of similar nature.

**El Niño induced drought has a negative impact on health, nutrition, diarrhoeal diseases increase and elevated risk of malaria in dry areas.** Overall, higher risks of disease outbreaks, hunger, heat stress, mental illness, infectious and respiratory illnesses were experienced during the 2015/2016 El Niño. In 2015/16 El Niño drought it was reported that pregnant women and girls are considered at high-risk for maternal complications related to drought. Health system challenges, such as poor quality of care, inadequate human resources, lack of essential medicines and supplies at service delivery points contribute to a high maternal mortality risk. More than 2.5 million people (2,531,340), including the elderly, children under age 5, persons with disabilities are more vulnerable to the increased health risks linked to the impacts of drought.

**The deterioration of nutrition status will render children under age 5, as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women, more vulnerable,** as they depend on higher energy and micro-nutrients intake. Poor nutritional status and consequent poor immunity of children under age 5 will further increase their vulnerability to infectious diseases, while pregnant and lactating mothers will be at risk of poor maternal and neonatal outcomes. The nutrition response will focus on strengthening prevention and treatment of all forms of malnutrition, directed at a population of 1.4 million.

**The drought is heightening the risk of gender-based violence (GBV), sexual exploitation and abuse.** During drought events, an increased likelihood of child-marriage and exposure to gender-based violence has been recorded. Meanwhile, limited access to water affects menstrual hygiene of girls,

1. CLAFA 1, 2024 Report, Ministry of Lands Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development

linked to reduced self-esteem at school, that has sometimes forced pupils to miss school during their menstrual cycle. Owing to long distances they resolve to walk to fetch water, the risk of abuse and sexual violence heightens. Similarly, the risk of exposure to domestic violence and intimate partner violence are also expected to increase, because of heightened family tensions caused by crop damages and income losses. Data from the 2023 National Food Security Rural and Urban assessment reports by the (Rural ZimVAC Report 2023) overlaid with data from the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) 2019 suggests that GBV increases in districts with higher levels of food insecurity. Further climate mobility induced by the El-Nino drought will likely fuel irregular migration and create a source of human trafficking. This highlights the need to strengthen the integration of protection services/activities, especially into the Food Security Sector, to effectively address protection risks.

**High levels of vulnerability and extreme poverty coupled with El Nino emergency will have a negative impact on the protection and well-being of children.** Key expected challenges in emergencies will include higher rates of child

marriages, Violence Against Children VAC/GBV, child labour, child migration, children left behind without parental care.

**The current El Niño event threatens nearly 1.8 million learners across Zimbabwe's 72 education districts**, with the most severe impacts to be felt by more than 1.24 million students, in 30 most drought-affected districts. Drought events frequently result in higher rates of school-dropout and absenteeism. Research indicates that due to the 2025/2016 El Niño, more than 45,067 children dropped out of school, 3,000 more compared to the annual average.<sup>2</sup> Currently, the El Niño-induced drought may result in increased school dropouts, as families face increasing poverty levels, thus making it difficult to pay school fees. Other factors influencing school attendance rates during economic hardship include child-marriages, teenage pregnancies, child labour, population movement, hunger, drug and substance abuse, and a general lack of motivation and enthusiasm among students. **Currently, climate-induced disasters have exposed 1,801,969 children at risk of protection issues** due to weakened protective environment system, which risks of failing to meet increasing needs due to the forecast increased caseload.

---

2. According to EMIS 2022, the 2015/2016 El Niño generated challenges that extended into 2017 dropouts.

# Part 2: Response Strategy and Coordination

---

## MASVINGO DISTRICT

March 2024 - 3year old girl in Bikita, Masvingo has boiled corn and ground nuts as her first meal of the day.

Photo: © UNICEF/RBAMHARE





## Response Strategy

**Following the failed 2023/2024 rainy season (October to March) and recognizing the forecasts of a potential and unprecedented La Niña-induced below-average rainy season in October to December 2024, immediate action is required to avert loss of life and livelihoods over the coming months.**

To this end, the Zimbabwe Drought Flash Appeal will run from April 2024 to March 2025. The appeal is based on the understanding that a multisectoral and integrated response to the drought crisis is critical to provide a holistic response to people's needs.

**Under the Flash Appeal, 3.1 million people will be targeted with humanitarian assistance in the most severely affected districts, in complement to the response of the Government of Zimbabwe.** The activities outlined by humanitarian partners under the Flash Appeal complement the Government's response to the national drought disaster, which has included livestock production, food assistance, cash transfers and the construction of solarized boreholes and water pans.

**The Flash Appeal builds upon the response already undertaken by humanitarian partners including the Anticipatory Action and Early response, launched in October 2023.** It addresses the urgent impact of the El Niño-induced drought on 3.1 million people in 46 districts, that requires a coordinated multi-sectoral response from the humanitarian community. The humanitarian community brings together the United Nations, International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) and National NGOs (NNGO). In particular, the appeal recognizes the vital role of local organizations that serve their own communities, as evidenced by the inclusion of projects carried out by NNGOs.

### Country Cross-Cutting Response Priorities

The Appeal also calls on humanitarian partners to carry out their responses while considering cross-cutting issues and approaches to ensure that all activities address the specific needs and context of the communities they are assisting. As a result, the following areas will be prioritized during the response to the drought:

**Accountability to Affected People (AAP) and Age, Gender Diversity (AGD):** The affected people including refugee and asylum seekers, will be actively involved in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of the response throughout the programme cycle. The humanitarian partners are in the process of operationalizing an AAP mechanism which will be led by WFP. It is anticipated that the AAP mechanism will be operationalized by end of May 2024. With that mechanism in place partners will ensure that accurate and timely information,

through appropriate and accessible channels using local languages, is provided. Community Feedback and Response Mechanisms (CFRM) will be established through community consultations.

**Disability-inclusion:** Partners will invest in evidence-based, multi-level strategies such as social and behaviour change, inclusive education, and skills opportunities to promote policies that combat institutionalized stigma and discrimination against persons with disabilities. The disability status of affected people and refugees will be considered during the registration process.

**Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA):** The Government and partners will work with community members to establish complaint and feedback mechanisms. Training sessions on PSEA will be undertaken for all actors involved in the response and for the communities to promote a strict zero-tolerance policy. Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials on PSEA and protection issues will be redacted in local languages and posted for all affected people including migrants, refugees and asylum seekers at service provision and distribution points.

### Prioritization

**Under the Flash Appeal, humanitarian partners have prioritized the districts where drought-related impacts are most severe and where urgent, immediate life-saving assistance is most needed.** To identify the degree of humanitarian needs, analysis was performed at two levels. Firstly, at a sector level, where sectors used sector-specific indicators, complementing food security indicators, to draw up a ranking to identify the severity of humanitarian needs, in target districts. The ranking stems from guidance from the Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework ([JIAF](#)), which ranks severity on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 representing minimal sectoral deprivations, and 5 representing complete sectoral collapse. Through the process, sectors identified sector caseloads and needs. The second degree of the analysis was conducted at the intersectoral level, applying the results from the sectoral severity of needs and identifying common needs to finally develop the intersectoral severity of humanitarian needs. This exercise considered severities across four sectors: Food Security, Health, Nutrition, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). The results established that districts ranged between Severity 1 and Severity 4, with none being in Severity 5. Considering the resources and capacity of humanitarian partners, districts in inter-sectoral Severity 3 and Severity 4—representing, respectively, severe and extreme deprivation—have been prioritized for the flash appeal population target. As such, the Flash Appeal will focus on critical lifesaving and life-

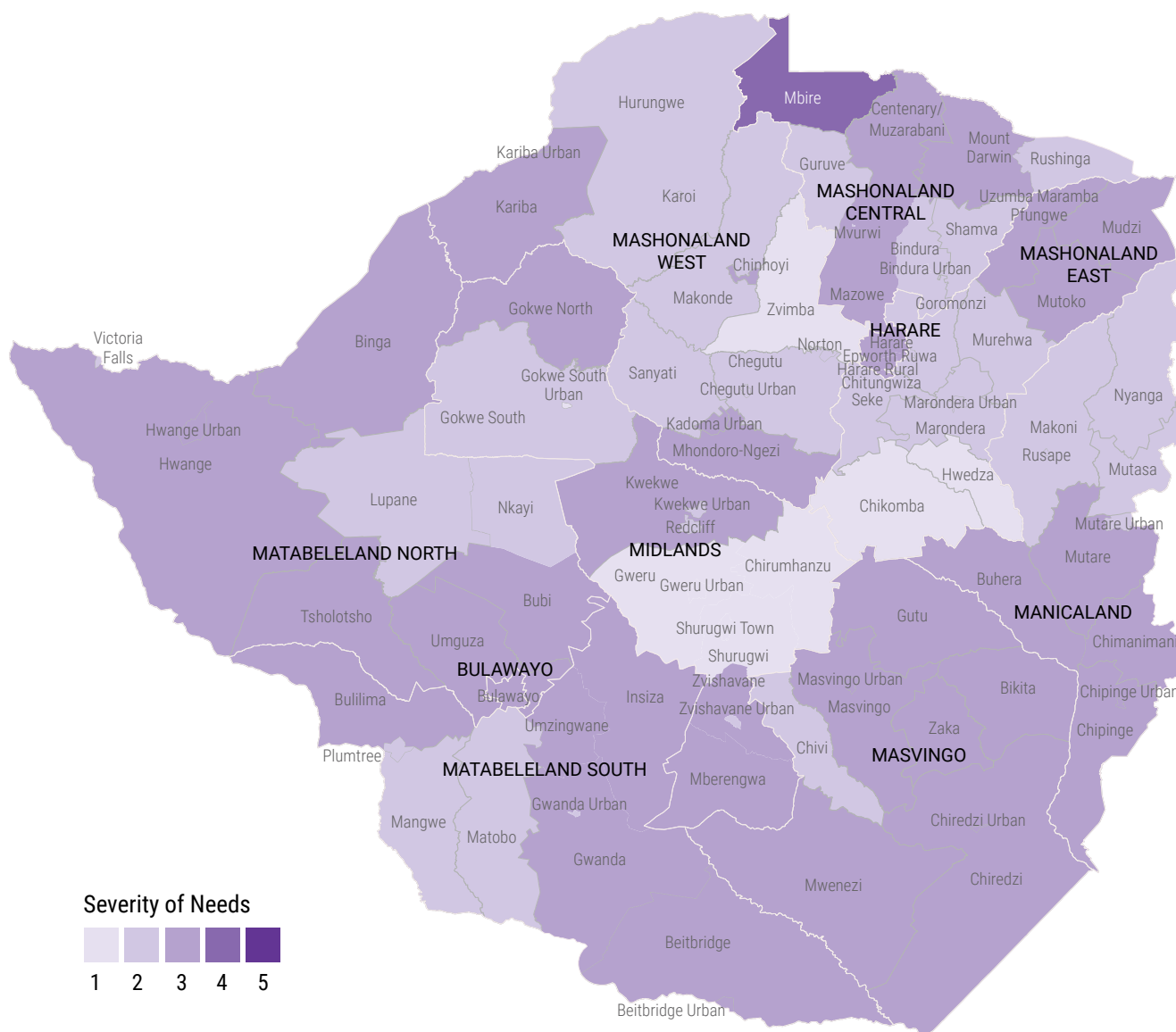
sustaining interventions in the most affected districts. Based on the two severities, **46 districts** have been identified as priority, with a target population of **3.1 million people** requiring **USD 429.3 million**. This approach is expected to maximize the impact of collective humanitarian action and to ensure that the areas of greatest need are reached first. While resilience-building efforts across the region have made important progress, communities have been hit by increasingly frequent and severe droughts, making it harder and harder for families to recover between shocks.

### Strategic Objectives

**Strategic Objective 1:** Provide lifesaving and life-sustaining

assistance to the people most affected by the drought crisis through an integrated, multisectoral humanitarian intervention. This objective reflects the commitment of all partners to prioritise immediate life-saving assistance for the most vulnerable people. The response will be implemented ensuring that gender, age, disability, and conflict-related sensitivities are respected/taken into account.

**Strategic Objective 2:** Identify and implement immediate drought mitigation measures that can be taken by each sector to counteract and reduce the impact and vulnerability of affected populations to drought and promote early recovery. The key words here are immediate drought **mitigation measures**.



## Coordination

**Sectoral coordination will be reinforced to ensure timely and effective operational coordination of the response,** bringing together national and international organizations to monitor response implementation, maximize the impact of humanitarian actions, avoid duplication, and identify critical gaps in the response at a sectoral level. The response plan will be implemented under the leadership of the Government. Coordination will require \$300,000 to ensure adequate coordination of response and assistance activities for the benefit of the people in need.

**The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) will coordinate at strategic level with the Department of Civil Protection which is mandated by the Government of Zimbabwe** to exercise overall coordination relating to drought management, including implementation of policies and programmes. The DCP provides a platform for long-term planning and action, as well as a mechanism for coordination across Government and with all other stakeholders during drought emergencies. The DCP has also activated District Civil Protection Committees at subnational levels who have who are now responding to the drought.

**The Zimbabwe Cash Working Group—which is co-chaired by CARE International and the World Food Programme—works in close collaboration with county coordination structures, with the overall objective to support the effective and efficient implementation, delivery and potential scale-up of quality cash transfer programming in Zimbabwe.** The Cash Working Group will look at ways to optimize the response across the available concurrent mechanisms in Zimbabwe. In rural areas, food assistance will be provided through the Food Security (FS) sector's Lean Season Assistance programme, implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Service, Labor and Social Welfare and in coordination with the Food Deficit Mitigation Programme. In urban areas, FS will implement cash-

based transfers to support the most food insecure households in affected domains. Selection of target districts or domains will be based on national livelihood assessments. Markets functionality assessments and operational considerations (i.e. presence of financial service providers) will determine the modality (cash or in-kind). The sector will provide monthly entitlements/rations aimed at meeting more than 60per cent of an individual's daily food needs.

### Displacement Tracking Matrix

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) process in Zimbabwe stands as a cornerstone in our humanitarian efforts, especially in the face of recurring El Niño episodes. This robust system transcends collection of data and provides understanding of the nuanced realities on the ground. Through rigorous assessments and data sharing agreements, the DTM empowers us to craft targeted responses, tailored to the specific needs of each community. By collaborating closely with governmental bodies and sectors, it becomes a catalyst for change. From pinpointing areas of severe food insecurity to identifying gaps in essential services, each report serves as a roadmap, guiding our humanitarian interventions. The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is being used by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Zimbabwe to gather crucial data on drought induced migration, internally displaced and affected persons in response to the El Niño episode. The DTM system provides tools for collecting and sharing accurate information with humanitarian partners, aiding in a more targeted and robust response. Data collection personnel are trained on preventing sexual exploitation and abuse, and sensitive information is protected through data sharing agreements. DTM reports are shared with humanitarian actors and government officials via email and online platforms. Ongoing assessments at various levels will guide response efforts, with a focus on food security and collaboration with government and sectors.

# Part 3: Operational Capacity, Access, Feasibility, Costing & Monitoring

---

## HARARE

Pupil at Glenview primary demonstrating handwashing

Photo: © UNICEF



## Capacity

**Under this Flash Appeal, humanitarian partners—including 30 national NGOs, 21 international NGOs and 8 UN entities—will implement drought response activities, in support of the Government-led response.** The organizations included in the Flash Appeal have well-established presences in the prioritized districts.

**A significant number of community-led organizations are present in the drought-affected priority districts, with a strong presence of both national and international organizations.** Humanitarian partners have responded to multiple emergencies and namely the El Niño drought 2016/17, 2018/19, and 2019. More than 60 humanitarian partners including UN Agencies, international NGOs, and national NGOs, will complement Government efforts in this response.

## Access

**A localization approach is core to the response through the fundamental partnership with local authorities,** local partners and affected populations. Their diversified and extensive knowledge, capacities, and experience are part of the response, fostering a collaborative co-existence. Civil society organizations who will participate in this Flash Appeal are those compliant with registrational and operational requirements, and that have access to the areas affected. Implementing partners are aware of the requirements mandated by the new law on Private Voluntary Organizations Bill—which is yet to be enacted. Were the bill to be enacted into law, it could limit the operational space of humanitarian partners, a concern that will be monitored closely throughout the response.

## Feasibility

**The delivery of lifesaving and life-sustaining assistance has been scaled-up as part of the El Niño Mitigation/Anticipatory Action Activities. Food Sector partners continue to support communities by leveraging their resilience building programmes to establish, rehabilitate and upgrade water and livelihood-based assets** (including solarized boreholes and mechanization). These early response initiatives are supporting and protecting livelihoods and livestock of affected communities, in close partnership with the Government of Zimbabwe (GoZ). The El Niño-drought AA plan only received USD5 million out of the the required \$28.5 million required. That plan only targeted 560,000 people compared to 3 million people targeted by this Flash Appeal, was received

in December 2023 and the activities will be completed in June 2024, when the impact of the drought will be most felt. However, despite these challenges, the humanitarian community is confident in its ability to implement the planned activities under the proposed Flash Appeal, should timely funding be received.

## Costing

**The Zimbabwe Drought Flash Appeal used project-based costing.** To develop the appeal rapidly, partners were requested to share their planned response activities, as well as information on funding available for these. This was then consolidated to form the basis of the Flash Appeal, with partners encouraged to continue sectoral discussions on complementarity in the period ahead to avoid duplication and ensure maximum impact on communities affected by drought and overall effectiveness of the response. All efforts were made to ensure synergies with the Government-led response, including through regular discussions and engagement with the DCP through the HCT on which activities were planned and implemented by the Government and in which geographical locations.

SECTOR	REQUIREMENTS (USD)
Food Security	319,810,032
WASH	34,827,650
Nutrition	30,625,000
Health	20,500,000
Education	12,090,268
Protection	7,957,722
Shelter	1,600,000
Coordination and Common Services	1,050,000
Refugee Response	826,000

## Monitoring

Humanitarian partners will monitor the response implemented under this Flash Appeal to ensure that it remains timely, efficient, fit-for-purpose and at the required scale, as follows:

Overall progress against the Flash Appeal will be discussed at monthly Humanitarian Country Team and updates shared within the national Civil Protection Committee meetings.

- Response achievement data will be reported at sub-county level and disaggregated, wherever possible, by sex and age. Initially, response data will be provided by partners

directly, with the aim of transitioning to sector reporting over time, through monthly dashboards.

- Sector response monitoring will be undertaken in accordance with the indicators identified by each sector and included in the Annex to the Flash Appeal. Over time, sectors will report progress against these selected indicators through the 3Ws mapping tool (Who does What,

Where and feed into the national 5Ws (Who does What, Where, for Whom and When) on a monthly basis.

- Various information products and analysis will be produced on a regular basis to provide updates on the response, in particular monthly Humanitarian Dashboards, which will provide the status of humanitarian needs, response, and gaps, as well as funding and funding gaps.

# Part 4: Sectoral Objectives & Response

---

## MUDZI DISTRICT

Cash Based transfer - Mudzi

Photo: © Tatenda Macheke



# 4.1 Education



PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	REQUIREMENTS(USD)	PARTNERS	PROJECTS
1.8M	351k	\$12.1M	25	1

% BOYS	%GIRLS	CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
49.9%	50.1%	12%

## El Niño Historical Trends

Historically El Niño has had a significant impact on education in Zimbabwe, from early childhood development (ECD) to primary and secondary levels, affecting learners, teachers, and school staff, as well as households. These climate events frequently result in higher rates of dropout and absenteeism. According to the 2022 Education Management Information Statistics (EMIS), the 2015/2016 El Niño generated challenges that extended well into 2017. A total of 45,067 children dropped out of school, that is 3,000 more pupils compared to the annual average. Primary causes of these dropouts include increasing poverty levels, making school fees not affordable, as well as issues of child marriage, teenage pregnancy, child labour, migration, hunger, drug and substance abuse, and a general lack of motivation and enthusiasm among students. Teachers and school leadership, in turn, are overwhelmed by the pupils' disposition and participation, especially when school feeding programmes are not available.

## Sector Situation Overview

This crisis, fuelled by the current El Niño event, threatens nearly 1.8 million learners across Zimbabwe's 72 education districts. The situation is aggravated by existing challenges remnants of the COVID-19 emergency, and the current cholera outbreak. The Cluster, through comprehensive monitoring efforts, warn of rising dropout and absenteeism rates. Economic pressures will force communities to adopt harmful coping strategies, including forcing learners into child labour or early marriage, or leave pupils too debilitated by lack of food and water to attend school.

School feeding programs and the promise of safe access to

water are critical incentives to maintaining school attendance. Zimbabwe's soaring inflation only exacerbates this outlook, as school fees become unaffordable for many families, strain school budgets and hinder the procurement of vital educational materials. As the examination of fee payments is imminent (by 30 April 2024), many students, risk being barred from crucial assessments. These compounding distressing events attest to an urgent educational emergency and set a grim stage for the upcoming school term.

Teachers will experience low morale, among other challenges. Many feel compelled to pursue opportunities abroad or find additional employment to increase their income, at the cost of quality education. As El Niño has historically caused drought episodes in Zimbabwe, food shortages and water scarcity will also affect schools and learners. Learners often miss school to support their families in income-generating activities (Zimbabwe Humanitarian Needs Overview 2016).

## People in Need and Targeted for Assistance

The total number of people in need for Education is 1,772,174 learners across the 20 districts identified as in Severity 3 and Severity 4. Out of this total, the Education Sector will target 20 per cent, that is 351,131 learners to complement government and other partners efforts.

## Cost of Response

Due to the importance of school feeding and access to safe water during drought, the sector's main aim is to provide proper school feeding for two terms (130 days) at the cost of USD32.5 per learner (\$0.25 per learner a day). The total cost of the programme is estimated at \$11,411,758. Capacity building of school heads is budgeted at \$500. With other costs



for teaching materials, the compounding total budget for the Education Sector is: USD12,046,268.

### Monitoring

The Education sector is to receive the first bunch of data Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education (MoPSE) on relevant indicators (dropouts, absenteeism, and payment of school fees rates) after the end of Term 1 (27 March 2024). The data will be compared to the Term 1 data form 2023 to assess for any notable differences. The following ext MoPSE data will be available after closure of Term 2 (August 2024). However, the sector is in close contact with the MoPSE Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) unit, which will enable prompt and useful communication and updates.

To ensure monitoring and updated information, the cluster will conduct joint monitoring visits, programme visits, and engage regularly with MoPSE district contacts and the Sector. The cluster is evaluating the possibility of conducting a mapping exercise of relevant interventions in schools, such as school feeding, water access, and distribution of teaching and learning materials among sector actors, and private actors.

### Sector Response Strategy

The Education Sector’s aim is to ensure that all girls and boys, school communities, and education personnel in Zimbabwe are safe and protected from hazards in and around schools and are active agents in reducing disaster risk and establishing a resilient education sector prior to El Niño, during and after. The sector will also coordinate responses and will cooperate with other relevant sectors and clusters such as WASH, Health, Nutrition, and child protection on responses that will

lead to children staying/returning to school or accessing alternative education.

### List of the Key Activities

The Education Sector strategy includes:

- **Scale up of school feeding** interventions.
- Cooperation with WASH Sector to **scale up safe water access** in schools.
- **Awareness raising and capacity building activities** on Disaster Risk Management, and online training on Resilience and on the Early Warning System for School Dropouts.
- **Provision** of teaching and learning materials.
- Cooperation with other relevant clusters to **improve access to quality inclusive education**.

Response Indicator	Baseline	Target
1. Number of children in humanitarian situations accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	338,113 (2023)	168,843
2. Number of children accessing school feeding	Not available	351,131



# 4.2 Food Security

PEOPLE IN NEED		PEOPLE TARGETED		REQUIREMENTS (USD)	PARTNERS		PROJECTS
6M		1.9M		\$320M	7		7

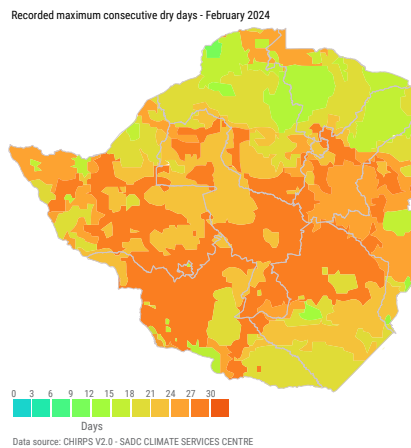
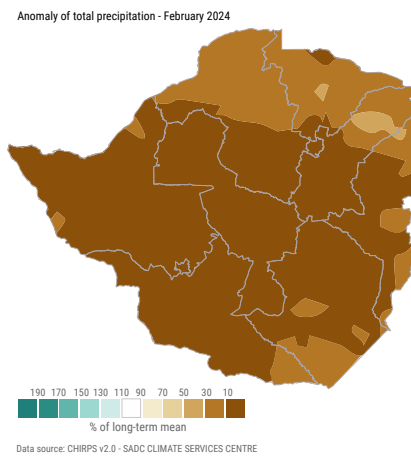
% MEN	% WOMEN	% BOYS	% GIRLS	% OLDER MEN	% OLDER WOMEN	% PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
22.2%	23.7%	24%	26%	1.8%	2.3%	15%

## El Niño Historical Trends

El Niño, a cyclical climate event marked by unusually warm ocean temperatures in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, impacts weather patterns worldwide. El Niño occurrences frequently cause lower rainfall and protracted dry spells in southern Africa, causing severe damage to rural communities and the agricultural industry. Zimbabwe sits in the region’s vulnerable agricultural belt, and has frequently experienced the detrimental effects of El Niño in the past, from 1982 to the present. El Niño events have recurred irregularly, appearing every two to six years. Three of the past five El Niño seasons—namely, 1982/1983, 1991/1992, and 2015/2016—brought about severe and widespread agricultural droughts across Zimbabwe (Hillary et al). The 2023/2024 El Niño was first forecasted and declared by the World Meteorology Organization in May 2023 following an observed temperature increase in the Eastern Pacific, proving itself to be accurate.

## Sector Situation Overview

Due to the late start of the summer rains, the start of the planting season was delayed until the beginning of December 2023. Despite average rainfall across most of the main maize planting areas in late December and early January, a catastrophic dry spell of more than 30 days was experienced across most of the country in February 2024. This was coupled with above average (extreme) temperatures at critical growth stages of cereals leading to partial or complete crop failure in most parts of the country. From the CLAFAs 1, the MLWARR are anticipating 40% of the maize crop to be ‘bad’, with 60% ‘a write off’.



It can be anticipated that the livestock sector will also be seriously affected in the winter months of June to October with very poor pasture quality and lack of available drinking water. These conditions will also lead to an increase in livestock diseases as cattle herds converge in search of forage and water.

The El Niño drought has also affected neighboring countries in the Sub-Region in particular Zambia and parts of South Africa

which have been important import locations for Zimbabwe over recent years. In response to anticipated production shortfalls across the region and other inflationary pressures, maize prices have risen significantly in the main markets across the country. This, along with reduced livelihood opportunities for poorer households in the agricultural sector, will negatively impact food access over the coming months. This will also negatively affect the nutritional status of children. Over the past 6 years the prevalence of wasting (global wasting, or acute malnutrition) increased from a low of 2.5 percent in 2018 to 4.1 percent in 2023 (ZimLAC data).

## People in Need and Targeted for Assistance

The Food Security and Livelihoods sector preliminarily estimates that the number of people in need across all districts (rural and urban) affected by El Nino may be around 6 million. These initial figures will continue to be revised and updated after the completion of the 2024 ZimLAC assessments and 2nd round of Crop and Livestock assessments.

The preliminarily plan included in this Appeal, is to support the provision of assistance to around 1.8 million people (including both rural and urban areas and corresponding to about 30% of the PIN) covering some of the most food insecure and drought affected districts, which will complement the national response of the Government. The final targeted figure and districts will be informed and revised by the findings of the upcoming 2024 Zimbabwe Livelihoods Assessments and coordinated together with the government and partners. The FSL sector partners will collaborate and coordinate closely with the MPSLSW in planning and determining the districts to be covered with emergency assistance by the Government, WFP, and its partners or other FSL stakeholders.

The FAO component of this assistance will as much as possible, target the same districts and villages as the WASH, nutrition, and protection activities. However, priority districts for FAO activities are based on the first round Crop and Livestock Assessment (CLAFA) and 2023 ZIMVAC. Livestock priority districts have been prioritized by the Livestock Production and Development (LPD) and the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) which are the following; Chiredzi, Gwanda, Matobo, Beitbridge, Bulilima, Mangwe, Chipinge South, Buhera, Mwenezi, Rushinga, Mudzi, Kariba and Hurungwe.

UNICEF will target 5 districts (Mudzi, Binga, Makoni, Buhera

and Goromonzi). A total of 146 000 people are targeted for Social Protection coverage in the 5 districts (40 000 households) including persons with disability (10%), pregnant women (2%), households which are food-poor, and labour-constrained.

## Cost of Response

### Food Assistance

To reach 1.9 million people in need with food assistance (food, CBT) in rural and urban areas, USD 201 million will be required, as indicated below:

Rural Population: USD 154 million is required to support 1.5 million food insecure people in rural areas for 6 months during the lean season. The assistance will be provided mainly through in-kind food transfers, although it will be explored the possibility to provide cash-based transfers (CBT) in a few areas, when suitable. The standard food rations will be comprised of Cereals, Pulses and Vegetable Oil. Moreover, when possible, people with higher nutritional needs (i.e. children 6-59 months old, pregnant and nursing women) will also receive a specialized nutritious food as part of their food rations.

Urban Population: USD 47 million is required to support up to 300,000 food insecure people in urban areas for around 7 months through cash-based transfers (\$13 per person per month).

Multi-purpose cash: USD 28 million is required for the cash transfer initiative to support 146 000 people. The amount transferred will be in line with the rate agreed at the Cash Transfer Working (USD13 per person per month) but capped at a 4-members household, giving a total of USD 52 per month per household to be transferred bimonthly for 12 months

### Crop Production and Livestock

For the rural population USD 40 Million is required to support the agricultural livelihoods of 1.7 million people.

### Early Recovery and Resilience

USD 50 Million is required to support community resilience

building programmes.

## Monitoring

The monitoring of activities will be conducted by the respective government departments, UN agencies and implementing partners. To assess the real impact of the interventions it is proposed to use:

- i. Household Hunger Scale and
- ii. RIMA II (Result Index Measure and Analysis), which was designed and adapted to assess the ability of target households to absorb and recover from a shock.

## Sector Response Strategy

The Food Security and Livelihoods sectoral response strategy will align to the Drought Risk Management Strategy 2017-2025 to protect lives and livelihoods allowing affected households to absorb and recover from the immediate impact of the El Nino drought. FAO, working closely with the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development (MLAFWRD) will help recover the agricultural sector through a combination of crop production and livestock protection.

WFP and its partners will provide basic food assistance to meet urgent food and nutrition needs of households in rural and urban communities. In rural areas, food assistance will be provided through WFP's Lean Season Assistance programme implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare and coordination with the Food Deficit Mitigation Programme. In urban areas, WFP will implement cash-based transfers to support food insecure households in affected domains. The choice of modality (cash or in-kind) will depend on markets functionality and operational considerations.

FAO and WFP continue to support communities by leveraging its resilience building programmes to establish, rehabilitate and upgrade water- and livelihood-based assets. These initiatives aim to support and protect livelihoods and livestock of the affected communities, in the close partnership with the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development and in line with the El Nino Drought Response Plan (April 2024). The possibility of providing logistics services to support government-led social protection programmes, will

also be explored if requested (not part of the requirements included in this Flash Appeal).

**For crop production**, FAO will implement a programme using the principles of Climate Smart Agriculture. This will involve the following:

- Where appropriate, the Pfumvudza and mechanized approaches will be promoted through training and capacity building of farmers, coupled with the provision of electronic vouchers for selected inputs for small grains (Sorghum and millet) and legume crops for food and fodder production.
- In addition, cash for work (in line with Shock Response strategy of the Ministry of Public Service, Labour, and Social Welfare) to facilitate support for the construction/ rehabilitation of community infrastructures such as irrigation facilities, water harvesting structures and drainage channels.
- Support national commercial production of certified seed will also be supported to ensure an increase in seed availability of the proceeding season.

**For the protection of livestock** from decimation, through poverty deaths and diseases, FAO will implement a range of activities, which include:

- Increased access to subsidized supplementary stock-feed provision as well as an intensive campaign on conservation of the crop residues for use in home-based feed formulations (including silage making and urea treatment). Irrigated fodder production through community and private sector partnerships.
- Fire control programs for the preservation of grazing land including training and awareness in communities will also be undertaken.
- Emergency support in vaccinations in cattle (3in1 Anthrax, Blackleg and Botulism vaccine) 1 million doses goats and dogs (rabies).
- Increased access to water through drilling of boreholes and construction of water troughs.

**UNICEF's response** will support households affected by the El Nino in 5 rural districts (Mangwe, Mudzi, Makoni, Binga and Rushinga) under UNICEF cash transfer programme up to July with the available funding. Thereafter it will support three of the districts which are among the most drought affected districts (Mudzi, Makoni and Binga) and 2 additional districts with cash transfer up to April 2025 when communities are expected to start harvesting produce from the 2024/2024 agriculture season. The other 2 additional districts will be selected in Manicaland and Mashonaland East Province and the support will include retargeting and give cash transfers to targeted households for a period of 12 months. Close collaboration will be made with the nutrition sector in overlapping districts so that cash transfer beneficiaries also benefit from nutrition services to ensure a comprehensive response that addresses multi-dimensional needs of the affected households to build their resilience. After April 2025 selected households, with under 2-year-olds, households with persons with disability, households with chronically ill people will be given a one-off grant to start up livelihood projects to enhance their sustainability.

#### **Food Assistance** (In-kind, CBT)

Response Indicator	Baseline	Target
1. Number of people receiving food assistance – Rural Areas	0	1,500,000
2. Number of people receiving cash-based transfers - Urban Areas	0	300,000

#### **Crop Production and Protection of Livestock**

Response Indicator	Baseline	Target
Indicator 1: Number of Households targeted for El Nino Crop Production Assistance		200,000
Indicator 2: Number of Households engaged in Cash Work		50,000
Indicator 3: Number of households benefitting from Livestock interventions	0	140,000

#### **Multi-Purpose Cash**

Response Indicator	Baseline	Target
Indicator 1: Number of households enrolled into the programme, disaggregated by female headed households and male headed and by district		40,000
Indicator 2. % of beneficiary households receiving regular transfers disaggregated by district		80%
Indicator 3: Number of households supported with a once off grant		50%

# 4.3 Health



PEOPLE IN NEED		PEOPLE TARGETED		REQUIREMENTS (USD)	PARTNERS	PROJECTS
4.1M		2.1M		\$20.5M	4	3

% MEN	% WOMEN	% BOYS	% GIRLS	% OLDER MEN	% OLDER WOMEN	% PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
23.9%	25.9%	22.5%	24.4%	1.6%	1.7%	0.7%

## Sector Situation Overview

In Zimbabwe, the health sector grapples with significant challenges in combating diseases such as malaria, cholera, and anthrax. With investments from Government and development partners, the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has declined from 462 per 100,000 live births in 2019, to 363 per 100,000 live births in 2022. Modern contraceptive prevalence rate for married women increased from 60.7 per cent in 2012 to 67.86 per cent, while unmet need for family planning among married women declined from 14 per cent in 2012 to 10.5 per cent. HIV prevalence among adults aged 15-49 years has steadily decreased, from 15.7 per cent in 2010 to 11 per cent in 2022 (ZDHS 2022). However, these gains obtained over the last decade have been challenged economic hardship and climate hazards, including drought, leading to depreciating Sexual Reproductive Health Indicators. Pregnant women and girls are considered at high-risk for maternal complications related to drought.

Cholera outbreaks and acute watery diarrheal diseases pose recurrent threats to public health in Zimbabwe, often exacerbated by poor sanitation, inadequate access to clean water, and overcrowded urban areas. Anthrax outbreaks also pose sporadic challenges, particularly in rural communities where livestock farming is common during drought periods. Addressing these challenges requires investments in health-care, service delivery and response systems, improving access to essential medicines and vaccines, promoting community education and awareness.

## People in Need and targeted for Assistance

In response to the forecast health impacts of El Niño, assistance efforts will target 2 million people across 29 districts, in nine (9) provinces in Zimbabwe. The targeted interventions aim to address the health needs of communities affected by El Niño-induced challenges, such as increased incidence of waterborne diseases, “water scarce” diseases, and vector-borne illnesses.

Providing support to healthcare services and the population in targeted districts is a priority, especially with regards to areas where access to healthcare is limited and where the burden of disease is higher. Health interventions may include capacity building of both facility and community-based health care workers, provision of medical supplies, essential medicines, vaccines, and integrated outreaches to remote and underserved communities.

Additionally, efforts will work on strengthening disease surveillance and response systems in these districts, to detect and respond promptly to outbreaks of infectious diseases, such as cholera and malaria, which may escalate during periods of climatic stress. Response efforts will support both national and subnational Rapid Response Teams (RRTs). By targeting specific districts across multiple provinces, assistance efforts in the health sector can effectively reach those most in need, mitigate the health impacts of El Niño, and build resilience within communities to better cope with future climate-related health challenges. Collaboration with local health authorities, community leaders, and humanitarian organizations is crucial to ensure the success and sustainability of these interventions.

## Cost of Response

To address the pressing needs of 2 million people exposed to substantial health risks and challenges triggered by the El Niño phenomenon in Zimbabwe, the Health Sectors requires \$20.5 million.

## Monitoring

To effectively monitor the progress of the response and ensure efficient utilization of allocated funds, the following indicators will be used for each area:

### 1. Surveillance System Monitoring:

- Frequency and timeliness of disease reporting: Number of reports submitted per week/month and their adherence to reporting deadlines.
- Accuracy of data collected: Percentage of reported cases that are confirmed through laboratory testing or clinical diagnosis.

### 2. Inventory Management:

- Stock levels: Regular assessment of inventory levels of essential medical supplies at national and subnational levels, including quantities on hand and reorder points.

### 3. Training Program Evaluation:

- Availability of trained human resources: Number of health care workers trained.
- Knowledge acquisition: Pre- and post-training assessments to measure the increase in knowledge and skills among health workers.
- Retention of knowledge: Follow-up assessments or site supportive supervisions to determine the long-term retention of training content.

### 4. Rapid Response Team Performance:

- Readiness: Assessment of the availability of trained personnel, equipment, and resources needed for rapid response activities.

- Response times: Measurement of the time taken from the identification of a health emergency to the initiation of response activities.
- Effectiveness: Evaluation of the outcomes of response activities, including the containment of outbreaks and the provision of timely care to affected individuals including continuity of care interventions

### 5. GBV Support Services Tracking:

- Availability and accessibility of services: Number of GBV survivors accessing clinical care, counseling, and referral services.

### 6. Reproductive Health Kit Distribution:

- Procurement and storage: Tracking the procurement and storage of reproductive health kits, including quantities received and distributed.

### 7. MISP Implementation Assessment:

- Availability of services: Evaluation of the availability and accessibility of essential reproductive health services during emergencies, including antenatal care, safe delivery, and family planning.

Regular monitoring and evaluation using these indicators will enable stakeholders to assess progress, identify challenges, and make informed decisions to optimize the effectiveness of the response activities, and ensure the well-being of Zimbabwe's population in the face of El Niño-induced health threats.

## Sector Response Strategy

A comprehensive sector response strategy for addressing health threats exacerbated by El Niño in Zimbabwe involves enhancing disease surveillance, improving inventory management, optimizing training programs, strengthening rapid response teams, enhancing access to health services for affected populations, enhancing GBV support services, managing reproductive health kits, and overseeing MISP implementation.

### List of the Key Activities:

1. **Surveillance System Enhancement:** Strengthen disease surveillance to promptly detect outbreaks, assess reporting frequency, ensure data accuracy, and compare disease incidence rates.
2. **Procurement and Supply Chain Management Improvement:** Implement robust systems to procure, preposition and monitor essential and emergency medical supplies, including regular assessments of stock levels.
3. **Training Program Optimization:** Develop comprehensive training programs for both facility and community-based health workers, conduct assessments to measure knowledge retention, gather feedback for improvement, and provide on the job mentorship.
4. **Rapid Response Team Strengthening:** Ensure teams are trained and equipped, assess readiness, monitor response times, and evaluate effectiveness in containing outbreaks.
5. **Access to services:** Improve access to health care for affected and hard to reach populations through support to integrated outreaches.
6. **GBV Support Services Enhancement:** Improve access to clinical care, monitor service availability and accessibility.
7. **Reproductive Health Kit Management:** Establish efficient procurement and distribution procedures, monitor distribution to ensure timely access for beneficiaries.
8. **MISP Implementation Oversight:** Evaluate availability and accessibility of reproductive health services, monitor integration of GBV support, and ensure adherence to MISP guidelines.

Regular monitoring of progress using these indicators will optimize the utilization of allocated funds and safeguard the population's well-being amidst El Niño-induced health challenges in Zimbabwe.

Response Indicator	Baseline	Target
1. Cholera Case Fatality Rate	2.1%	Below 1%
2. Number of District Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) Supported	15	26
3. H.11 Number of people receiving treatment for acute watery diarrhoea (incl. cholera)	15,000 per month	20,000 per month
4. Number of women and girls accessing integrated sexual reproductive health services and comprehensive primary health care services in targeted districts	12,000	1,500
5. Number of health workers trained in MISP	50	125
6. Number women and children accessing comprehensive primary health care services in targeted districts	TBA	1,500,000
7. Proportion of districts with prepositioned essential and emergency commodities and PRTs	80	90%



## 4.4 Nutrition



PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	REQUIREMENTS (USD)	PARTNERS	PROJECTS
<b>3.5M</b>	<b>1.4M</b>	<b>\$30.6M</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>

% BOYS TARGETED	%GIRLS TARGETED	PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
<b>49.9%</b>	<b>50.1%</b>	<b>12%</b>

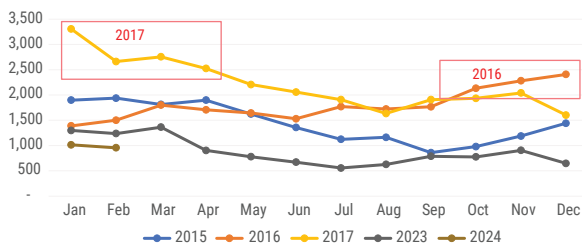
### El Niño Historical Trends

The following is a comparison of the current El Niño event with the 2015/16 El Niño.

Zimbabwe Annual Wasting Admissions



Zimbabwe SAM Admission Trends



Annual admissions for treatment of severe wasting for children aged 6-59 months, by year and month.

A rise in numbers of children with severe wasting was seen in 2015/2016, specifically from mid-2016 and throughout 2017, with highest numbers recorded in the first quarter of 2017,

during the peak of the lean season. In 2016, admissions for severe wasting increased by 25 per cent, and a further 25 per cent increase was recorded in 2017, accounting for an additional 10,000 children who were treated for severe wasting in 2016 and 2017. This suggests that the incidence of life-threatening wasting is likely to increase from mid-2024 and remain high throughout 2025, long after the dissipation of the current El Niño event.

### Sector Situation Overview

**A steady increase in wasting has been recorded over the last six years** from a low of 2.5% (global wasting, or acute malnutrition) in 2018, pre Covid-19, to a high of 7.2 per cent in 2022 (SMART Nutrition Survey and ZimVAC data). At the last El Niño (2015-16) there was a 25% increase in the number of children needing treatment for severe wasting over a 2-year period, translating to an additional 10,000 children who were treated for severe wasting. These trends indicate that incidence of life-threatening wasting is likely to increase from mid-2024 and remain elevated throughout 2025, long after the El Niño event itself dissipates.

**In addition, 83 per cent of Zimbabwe's children are living in food poverty, not receiving the diverse diet they need to grow and develop to their full potential** (MICS 2019), putting them in a precarious position for fast deterioration in nutrition status as food security declines. The current El Niño induced drought is expected to reduce food access and availability, and thereby the quality of diets, which will result in a deterioration of nutrition status affecting children under-five, the most vulnerable, as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women due to their higher needs for energy and micro-nutrients,

compounding the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition. These factors, coupled with the on-going cholera outbreak, will contribute to the anticipated increase in wasting and other forms of malnutrition, especially among children under-five.

## People in Need and Targeted for Assistance

The total number of people in need (PIN) for the Nutrition Sector is estimated at 3,517,175, including pregnant and lactating women and children under five. Out of the PIN, 1,430,000 (40 per cent) will be targeted, including children under-five (i.e. 71 per cent) and pregnant and lactating women (i.e. 29 per cent) in 29 most drought-affected and nutritionally vulnerable districts.<sup>1</sup>

## Cost of Response

The nutrition response will focus on strengthening prevention of all forms of malnutrition, with a focus on wasting, through protecting diet diversity with multiple micronutrient powders for children and nutrition gardens at community and household level, as well as ensuring provision of treatment services for severe wasting, including securing the pipeline of essential nutrition commodities, and carrying out repeated surveillance over the period likely to see an increase in wasting (June 2024 and throughout 2025) through measuring mid upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening, and support to assessments and surveys. The cost of this action for the 29 districts is US\$30,675,000.

## Monitoring

The nutrition sector will support and increase surveillance activities (including support to surveys and assessments and increase community-based MUAC screening for generation of proxy-wasting levels) to closely monitor the impact of the

drought on nutrition status, of children under-five, as the most vulnerable.

## Sector Response Strategy

- **Support dual purpose MUAC screening** for early identification, referral, and quality treatment of children with severe wasting as well as surveillance to monitor levels of wasting and identify increases early.
- **Support collection of disaggregated (district level) nutrition data** through the Zimbabwe livelihood assessment.
- **Scale up the Care Group approach** to enhance access to quality diets and services for prevention of all forms of malnutrition for children below five years, adolescents, and pregnant and lactating women.
- **Distribution of multiple micronutrient powder (MNPs)** through Care Groups and ensure integration with SBC nutrition messaging on MNPs for caregivers of children aged 6 – 59 months.
- **Scale up the establishment and integration of nutrition gardens** at household and community level through Care Groups, integrated with WASH and Agriculture response to support the Village Business Unit approach.
- **Ensure availability of quality services for the treatment of life-threatening severe wasting** through all health facilities and referral hospitals, including surge-capacity and prepositioning of essential nutrition supplies in worst affected districts.

1. Buhera, Chipinge, Makoni / Rusape, Mt Darwin, Mbire, Goromonzi, Mudzi, Mutoko, Kariba, Mhondoro-Ngezi, Binga, Bubi, Hwange, Tsholotsho, Umguza, Beitbridge, Bulilima, Gwanda, Insiza, Umzingwane, Gokwe North, Kwekwe, Mberengwa, Zvishavane, Bikita, Chiredzi, Masvingo, Mwenezi, Zaka

- **Procure essential nutrition commodities** including ready to use therapeutic foods (RUTF), therapeutic milks, multiple micronutrient powders (MNPs).
- **Scale up Nutrition Social Behavior Change**, including capacity building of community health care workers in SBC cross sectoral package and messages to keep households and communities empowered to mitigate effects.
- **Strengthen micronutrient supplementation** in the context of reduced access to a diverse diet, including iron and folic acid supplementation to pregnant women and adolescent girls and boys, and Vitamin A Supplementation for children 6-59 months.

Response Indicator	Baseline	Target
1. Number of children aged 6 to 59 months screened for wasting	250,000 (2023)	735,554
2. Number of children aged 6-59 months with severe wasting who are admitted for treatment in 2024	10,556 (2023)	19,775
3. Number of primary caregivers of children aged 0 - 23 months who received IYCF counselling	290,000 (2023)	295,200

#### MASVINGO DISTRICT

Lead Mothers in Chiredzi, Masvingo received training on measuring children's MUAC for early identification and prevention of malnutrition

Photo: © UNICEF/RBAMHARE



# 4.5 Protection



PEOPLE IN NEED		PEOPLE TARGETED		REQUIREMENTS (USD)	PARTNERS	PROJECTS
2.9M		1M		\$8M	4	13
% MEN	% WOMEN	% BOYS	% GIRLS	% OLDER MEN	% OLDER WOMEN	% PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
7%	22%	27%	33%	4%	6%	0.7%

## Sector Overview

**During an emergency, the risk of violence, exploitation, and abuse increase;** populations can resort to negative coping mechanisms, and women and girls are exposed to increased vulnerability. **Vulnerabilities affecting women** are further heightened by factors of intersectionality, such as disability, age, sexuality, religion, ethnicity, and geographical location (e.g. rural or urban area). The drought is likely to increase the incidence of child marriage, school dropouts, abandonment, domestic violence, negative economic coping mechanisms, and induce loss of income, particularly with regards to women who constitute most of the farming workforce. In border-

lying districts, parents and caretakers are used to leaving children behind to cross the border in search of livelihoods; this has often resulted in abandonment, especially in cases when parents could not find the desired opportunities for livelihoods or employment to remit money and food back home. Adolescent boys and girls take up jobs, or are sent to look for jobs, to support income needs or reducing the number of people to feed in a family. In some areas, women, girls, and boys are found to engaging in illegal small-scale mining—a sector with high incidence of violence—to supplement the lost income, due to as bad agricultural season.

## 4.6 Child Protection Sub-Sector



PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	REQUIREMENTS (USD)	PARTNERS	PROJECTS
1.8M	721k	\$2.6M	10	11

%BOYS	%GIRLS	% CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
40%	60%	9%

### El Niño Historical Trends

The 2015/2016 El Niño created severe water shortages which resulted in safe water sources drying up and forced people to resort to unsafe sources to satisfy their need for drinking, domestic uses, and livestock maintenance. Negative impacts of water shortage were seen on health and health infrastructure—including on people living with HIV/TB—, nutrition, education, and risk of violence. Women and girls' socially ascribed roles to provide for water increased their exposure to the risk of gender-based violence (GBV), as the El Niño-induced drought pushed them to travel longer in search of water.

### Sub-Sector Situation Overview

**El Niño conditions have often affected households resulting in poor care and protection of children as priority is given to having food on the table at all costs.** Other challenges at the household levels related to childcare, as children risk being left behind by parents, while they search for livelihood opportunities, in the care of siblings. Girls are expected to take up the caring role in the absence of their mothers, a burden that forces some to drop out of school to take care of their younger siblings and perform household chores—fetching water and firewood, among others. Coping mechanisms adopted by families range from children as young as eight years being pushed to work or stay with relatives who can provide for food, in return for labour. Young girls are often sent to engage in domestic work. Migration increases among adolescents in search of livelihoods opportunities to provide food or remittances. In these circumstances, partners have observed increased cases of teenagers eloping, cohabiting, or being married to multiple men who are able to provide for

them and their families, ultimately increasing the incidence of teenage pregnancies, and early motherhood. Informal sector work negatively affects the safety of children, whose protection becomes secondary, as many will work in pottery, artisanal mining, and others, late hours and in unsafe areas. With increasing food insecurity at the household level, sanitary wear and items, birth certificates, education and psychosocial wellbeing of children and youngsters are overlooked.

### People in Need and Targeted for Assistance

The total Child population in the twenty targeted districts is 4,004,000. According to data from the Social Policy section, 45 per cent of children live in poverty, which is an estimated population of 1,801,969 children. The Child Protection Sub Sector will target 40 per cent of the children living in poverty, as children most vulnerable children and in need of comprehensive protection services. Thus, the estimated number of People in Need of child protection services is 720,788 people, of which 40 per cent male and 60 per cent female.

### Cost of Response

Child protection will focus on the 0 to 19 years of age group, recognizing it will experience the effects of the drought differently. While infants may face neglect and inadequate parental care, children aged 8 to 19 years may face a varied of child protection risks, from child labour to migration, exploitation, and abuse. The cost of the Child protection in emergency component is \$2,557,722.

## Monitoring

Programme monitoring will be two-pronged. First, a contextual monitoring geared towards child protection surveillance and early identification of protection cases, with the to understand patterns and trends of protection issues arising from the effects of El NiñoEl Niño. This will contribute to better targeting of districts and informing Government and Partners on the nature of interventions to be implemented. Second, a child protection monitoring focused on community level interventions, assessing provision of Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE) services to children, tracking knowledge – with regards to the capacity building of community structures, and the deployment of social workers as case managers at identified hotspots at community level. Implementation will assess how community cadres—such as Community Childcare Workers (CCWs)—identify, refer, and facilitate provision of services. The emphasis will be on assessing the individualized case management offered by social workers. Programme monitoring will further track prevention of protection violations, provision of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and children’s movement. Child Protection will support the National Case Management information system, to provide real-time case load data and inform programming and interventions.

## Sector Response Strategy

The investment on Child Protection will build on community level interventions, strengthening the capacity of community structures and the deployment of social workers as case managers at identified community-level hotspots. Community-workers will be supported to contextualize their interventions based on the individual children and the target area, assessing needs, and jointly developing care plans for the identified children in need of protections services. Community-level child protection structures (Child Protection Committees) will be responsible for maintaining a database of the children who are vulnerable, and link families with social protection programmes.

Child Protection will deliver the services through the Ministry of Public Service Labor and Social Welfare Departments, District Civil Registration, sub offices and partners from Civil Society Organization (CSO) partners. The Department of Social Development Offices have presence in the selected districts, to enable coordination of case management and management

of statutory cases, family assessments and alternative placements, while selected CSO are present to deliver specialized child protection services, including MHPSS, access to justice, access to medical and legal aid, among others.

### List of the Key Activities:

- **Strengthening the community support systems** to protect children and women from climate-induced vulnerabilities by building the capacity of Community Childcare Workers to identify, refer and respond to child protection cases in a timely manner.
- **Support the integration of care and child protection services** into emergency social cash transfers linked to climate shocks.
- **Support for vulnerable children by strengthening parenting programmes and referral** between existing care and parenting groups such as nutritional care groups that specifically target groups the most at risk from climate change.
- **Develop information, communication and education materials** on social and behavioural changes relating to protection risks.
- **Supporting districts in implementing alternative foster care for children** left behind by parents who have migrated because of climate shocks.
- **Mainstream child protection** into emergency response through strengthened coordination.

Response Indicator	Baseline	Target
1. Number of children accessing integrated emergency child protection services through the National Case Management System.	70,000	250,000
2. Number of unaccompanied and separated minors reached with child protection services	500	1,000
3. Number of Children and their caregivers at risk reached with MHPSS	120,000	720,788

## 4.7 Gender Based Violence Sub-Sector



PEOPLE IN NEED		PEOPLE TARGETED		REQUIREMENTS (USD)	PARTNERS	PROJECTS
2.6M		943K		\$5.4M	5	2
% MEN	%WOMEN	% BOYS	% GIRLS	% OLDER MEN	% OLDER WOMEN	%PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
12%	36%	12%	24%	6%	10%	9%

### Sub-Sector Situation Overview

**Drought can exacerbate existing inequalities and vulnerabilities leading to increased violence against women and girls, child marriages, sexual exploitation, and abuse.** Limited access to water affects menstrual hygiene of women and girls. Girls often lose self-esteem at school, and sometimes resolve to miss school during their menstrual cycle. Water scarcity will make women and girls travel longer distances to fetch water, and in some instances food aid, thus exposing them to higher risks of abuse and sexual violence. Migration and population movement also heightens the risk of hunger, sexual violence, exploitation, and early pregnancy. Humanitarian partners implementing protection-related anticipatory actions in Chipinge rural, Chimanimani, Mwenezi, and Buhera report an increasing trend of school absenteeism and school dropouts, particularly for girls. The risk of exposure to domestic violence and intimate partner violence is also expected to increase, because of heightened family tensions caused by income losses amid bad harvests. Data from the 2023 Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVac) national food security rural and urban assessment reports, overlaid with data from the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) 2019 suggests that exposure to protection risks, such as GBV, increases in districts with higher levels of food insecurity. The integration of protection needs to strengthen across all sectors to effectively address protection risks during the drought emergency response.

### People in Need and Targeted for Assistance

The economic strains brought about by El Niño will worsen education challenges. The impact of El Niño can influence productivity in various economic sectors, affecting employment rates and incomes. As families grapple with economic difficulties, they may struggle to afford school fees, uniforms, and learning materials. As women and girls are disproportionately affected by drought, it is pivotal they are active participants and leaders in the response efforts. There is a need to ensure women, girls and boys know their rights, to reduce the protection risks they might face. In drought-affected areas, women and girls are forced to walk long distances to collect water and food, increasing the risk of sexual violence.

A total of 2,567,716 people will need GBV protection, and a total of 943,898 people will be targeted throughout the country.

### Cost of Response

Total Cost = \$5,400,000

### Monitoring

Monitoring of the interventions will be coordinated by the Ministry of Women Affairs Community Small and Medium Enterprises Development who have the mandate to oversee GBV prevention and response efforts in the country.

### Sector Response Strategy

**Protection will be addressed as both a stand-alone and a cross-cutting issue.** The Sector will ensure that a gender-sensitive approach is adopted across all sectors, to ensure that

the needs of women and girls in drought-affected communities are met in line with the IASC Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls in Humanitarian Action. The Sector will ensure protection services are available for vulnerable women, children, and adolescents, including welfare, justice, and security-related services.

**In alignment with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) centrality of protection policy and the "leaving no one behind" principle from the 2030 Agenda**, all partners engaged in drought response will bear the responsibility of guaranteeing that their actions do not exacerbate the vulnerability of communities to risks such as violence, insecurity, extortion, and exploitation. Activities will be structured to benefit all communities, including local communities, displaced populations, returnees, and refugees, addressing their unique needs, and considering potential barriers related to gender, age, disability, or social affiliations and ethnicity. Moreover, proactive measures will be taken to mitigate the risks of violence that droughts could incite, leading to displacement and heightened humanitarian dependency.

**List of the Key Activities:**

- **Conduct a Rapid Gender Analysis.**
- **Carry out continuous gender assessments** of the response – Knowledge and evidence generation and dissemination.
- **Hold Community dialogues** on the gender impacts of droughts.
- **Strengthening the capacities** of Humanitarian actors and clusters leads to mainstream gender across all the clusters.
- **Strengthen women’s leadership** and voices in the various response committees.
- **Awareness campaigns** on GBV, social norms, sexual exploitation, and abuse.
- **Establish timely GBV mitigation child-focused strategies**, community-based mechanisms to reduce exposure for most-at-risk women, girls, and boys.
- **Ensure availability and accessibility** of quality comprehensive GBV survivors’ multi-sectoral services.

- **Scale up ongoing capacity-building efforts** for GBV sub-sector specialized actors on the application of GBV in Emergencies Minimum standards and CPC and CCWs to identify, refer and respond to El Niño induced child protection cases in a timely manner.
- **Mainstream child protection into emergency response** through strengthened coordination between District Child Protection Committees (CPC) and other sectors coordination mechanisms (i.e., Emergency Response Coordination Committees)
- **Strengthen the capacity of Humanitarian sectors’** actors (Such as Food security, Health, WASH, Nutrition, Education, Shelter and CCCM) on integrating GBV interventions into humanitarian action, including on the establishment of prevention, mitigation, and community based GBV complaints mechanisms.
- **Strengthen PSEA capacity** among all humanitarian actors.
- **Enhance protection coordination** at national, provincial and district level, including effective monitoring, response, and prevention of GBV, to inform targeted programming and timely response.
- **Strengthen the child protection cases identification** and referral pathway and links through the National Case Management at district level including MHPSS and layering of care and protection services in the emergency social protection (grain distribution, cash transfers and livelihoods).

Response Indicator	Base-line	Target
1. Rapid Gender Analysis Report		1
2. Number of people receiving GBV psycho-social support and/or GBV case management	TBD	189,000
3. Number of frontline Humanitarian and Relief actors operating in districts affected by drought sensitised on gender mainstreaming and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse integrating GBViE mitigation into relief operations	TBD	1,260
4. Number of people reached with key messages on GBViE, PSEA and available GBV services	TBD	944,000
5. Number of community dialogues on the gendered impacts of droughts held		24



## 4.8 Shelter



PEOPLE IN NEED		PEOPLE TARGETED		REQUIREMENTS (USD)	PARTNERS	PROJECTS
282k		47k		\$1.6M	1	2
% MEN	% WOMEN	% BOYS	% GIRLS	% OLDER MEN	% OLDER WOMEN	% PEOPLE WITH DIABILITIES
22.2%	23.7%	24%	26%	1.8%	2.3%	5%

### Sector Situation Overview

**In the wake of recurring El Niño phenomenon, Zimbabwe finds itself grappling with multifaceted challenges. New population arrivals have been observed, including in urban centres, however data gaps currently limit the understanding of mobility trends linked with drought conditions.** Knowledge over the impact of drought and most urgent needs faced by displaced populations and communities hosting them is also very limited. Initial reports indicate that shelter needs are prominent for 75,654 people in several regions reporting substantial new arrivals of populations, including with Bikita (Masvingo Province), Chimanimani (Manicaland Province), Chipinge (Manicaland Province), Chiredzi (Masvingo Province), and Tsholotsho (Matabeleland North Province). Chimanimani and Chipinge emerge as critical focal points for intervention, with both districts experiencing high levels of vulnerability. In Chimanimani alone, nearly 18,000 individuals are in dire need of shelter. Additionally, responding to shelter needs in larger urban centres, including Harare presents a significant challenge, with staggering numbers of people in need of shelter (288,000 people). Populations living in informal settlements face dire living conditions including overcrowding, inadequate infrastructure, and limited access to basic services. Targeted shelter interventions, including the provision of emergency shelters, non-food items are vital to protect the safety, health and dignity of populations displaced by the drought. Gaining a better understanding of mobility trends and subsequent needs to displaced populations and communities hosting them would also be critical to inform broader preparedness and response of humanitarian partners on the ground.

### People in Need and Targeted for Assistance

In Beitbridge (Matabeleland South Province), Chimanimani, Chipinge, and Chiredzi, assistance targets regions with significant displacement and housing needs, notably Chimanimani, Chipinge, Masvingo and Tsholotsho, where 19,962 individuals require immediate support to secure adequate shelter and mitigate exposure to harsh environmental conditions. Chimanimani, Harare, Masvingo, Chipinge and Tsholotsho emerge as primary points for intervention, with substantial numbers of people in need of assistance, including shelter. These regions have endured the brunt of previous disasters (e.g. Cyclone Idai, seasonal flooding), thus requiring targeted and sustained support to facilitate recovery and enhance resilience to future climate-related shocks.

Additionally, urban centres present complex challenges, where a significant amount of people are in need shelter assistance. Targeted interventions in these areas aim to address these unique vulnerabilities, ranging from overcrowding to inadequate infrastructure, and limited access to essential services, increasing the vulnerability of newly arrived populations and communities hosting them. Tailored assistance to the specific needs of affected populations is urgently needed to reduce vulnerabilities of populations affected by the drought effectively mitigate the impact of El Niño .

### Cost of Response

The sector will seek to address the immediate needs for assistance of 3,000 vulnerable households (HH). The Shelter Sector will be responsible for centralized procurement of the Shelter and NFI kits. Shelter kits (including tarpaulins and

fixings) according to international and sectoral standards. Shelter kits have been prioritized considering they are highly versatile in their use. Communal tool kits will be procured and made available to the community for support in construction. NFI Kits (including items such as bucket, kitchen set, mosquito net, sleeping mat, jerry can, blankets, solar light and sanitary ware) will also be procured. These kits will be procured centrally through the Shelter Sector and then dispatched to partner for distribution to the affected populations. To complement the households a separate dignity kit will be procured and prepositioned to cater for the needs of women and girls. The dignity kit will consist of sanitary ware for women and girls including and Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials for the provision of information counselling and referral services.

### Monitoring

The monitoring plan will encompass real-time data collection and analysis through strengthened early warning systems, enabling timely adjustments to response efforts based on evolving circumstances. Regular assessments of progress and impact will be conducted, with a focus on key areas such as food security, water availability, shelter provision, and community resilience. This monitoring plan will be underpinned by community engagement and participation, empowering local stakeholders to provide feedback, voice concerns, and contribute to decision-making processes.

Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) and focus group discussions carried out within the framework of the activities will provide affected people a platform to share their opinions on the assistance received (qualitative and quantitatively) its relevance, the implementation modality, and its usefulness, for sector partners to address any issues, and inform future programme planning. At the initial stage, indicators will remain at the household level, along defined vulnerability criteria. Further efforts will be made to disaggregate results by gender, age and disability. Receivers of protection services will be requested to fill in a concise questionnaire about the quality of the support received, when appropriate.

### Sector Response Strategy

Targeted assistance is essential to address the specific protection and shelter needs of vulnerable populations across provinces. The response will be coordinated within the Gender-

Based Violence (GBV) in Emergencies Guiding Frameworks Principles, which prioritize the safety, dignity, well-being, and equitable access to services for all crisis-affected persons, especially women and girls during the provision of gender sensitive shelter and NFIs. Special considerations will be taken for children to ensure privacy and dignity. Data-driven findings will enhance the evidence-based targeted response and guide the prioritizing of needs and available, in planning the response. This involves tailoring assistance efforts to the unique challenges faced by each community, from food insecurity to water scarcity, displacement, and inadequate shelter. Targeted interventions aim to provide immediate relief while also laying the groundwork for long-term resilience-building initiatives.

#### List of the Key Activities:

- Procurement and distribution** of S/NFI items and shelter communal tool kits.
- Procurement and distribution** of NFI Kits-Household and Dignity Kit (including items such as bucket, kitchen set, mosquito net, sleeping mat, jerry can, blankets solar light and sanitary ware).
- Conduct progress, impact and PDM assessments**, providing beneficiaries the platform to share their opinions on the assistance received.
- Carry out Displacement Tracking Matrix** for profiling and identification of sector needs.
- Facilitate capacity building and awareness** on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA).

Response Indicator	Baseline	Target
Shelter Provision Indicator	Number of displaced individuals lacking adequate shelter in high-risk areas affected by El Niño.	Ensure that 90% of displaced individuals have access to safe and adequate shelter to meet their protection needs within three months of initiating response efforts.

## 4.9 Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)



PEOPLE IN NEED		PEOPLE TARGETED		REQUIREMENTS (USD)	PARTNERS	PROJECTS
4.1M		2.6M		\$34.8M	15	19

% MEN	% WOMEN	% BOYS	% GIRLS	% OLDER MEN	% OLDER WOMEN	% PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
23%	24.7%	22%	24%	3%	3.3%	1.6%

### El Niño Historical Trends

Drought conditions lead to reduced safe water availability, and in water sources drying up, in turn forcing people to resort to unsafe water sources for drinking and domestic use. This puts additional pressure on competition for water sources for livestock sustenance. During cholera outbreaks, for example in 2015/16, and currently in 2023/24, water shortages have further exacerbated poor water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services, heightening the risk of cholera transmission.

Across the country, shortages of drinking water and dry water sources have been reported. Historically, the 2015/16 El Niño created severe water shortages and resulted in 1.5 million people having to be assisted with safe water, to mitigate its negative impacts. Further, in 2015/16, both in Zimbabwe and other countries, lack of food and water led to increased population movement.

Beyond increased diarrheal diseases, including cholera, drinking water shortages have led to reduced capacity of health facilities, poor nutrition, increased school dropout rates, and increased risk of violence, especially against women and children, as they must travel longer distances in search of water.

### Sector Situation Overview

As the low performing rainy season ends, the water security situation continues to deteriorate. National dam storage levels have decreased to 82.7 per cent of capacity, as of 7 March 2024, including seven dams reporting less than 12 months of raw water supply. Lake Kariba (at the border with Zambia) water levels have decreased to just 14.72 per cent of usable

storage, as reported on 11 March 2024. The low inflow and reduced rainfall not only result in less availability for drinking and domestic purposes but also in decreased hydroelectricity generation, leaving inadequate power to produce and transmit water in and from at least three major water treatment plants in urban Zimbabwe.

Reports indicate increasing instances of safe water sources drying up in rural areas, as was seen during the 2015/2016 El Niño, which resulted in severe water shortages and forced people to rely on unsafe water sources for drinking and domestic use. Some 35 per cent of rural households rely on unsafe water, while 45 per cent are already travelling more than 500 meters to fetch water. Some 46 per cent of households already use inadequate basic sanitation services (ZIMVAC, 2023), thus increasing the risk of disease outbreak.

### People in Need and Targeted for Assistance

The total number of people in need of WASH assistance estimated by the Sector is 4.1 million people. This includes elderly people, children under age 5, and persons with disabilities. Out of this 4.1 million, 62 per cent will be targeted by the WASH Sector, including nearly half of the population targeted (46 per cent) in the most drought-affected and cholera vulnerable districts.

### Cost of Response

The WASH response will focus on critical life-saving interventions to reduce the morbidity and mortality of WASH-related diarrheal diseases due to low access to safe water. Increased access to safe water will be achieved through strong engagement and coordination with the Government, local

authorities, relevant technical ministries and communities, to rehabilitate water systems. Priority will be given to developing high-yielding, perennial water sources to provide multi-use water systems, i.e. for domestic use, nutrition gardens and livelihoods. Good hygiene practices and proper faecal waste management will be promoted and where needed, households will be supported with water treatment chemicals, water containers for increased storage and soap for handwashing.

### Monitoring

The WASH sector will support and increase surveillance activities including collecting data on WASH coverage and tracking water security reports and epidemiological data to continue to prioritize the hotspot areas. Data from nutrition will also be used to closely monitor the impact of the drought, particularly for children aged under 5. Joint monitoring visits will also be undertaken to all the project areas to increase accountability and compliance with the response strategy.

### Sector Response Strategy

- Establish and strengthen **effective early warning, surveillance, and monitoring systems** to understand the impacts of drought on household access to safe drinking water in rural and urban areas.
- Provide **climate-resilient, basic, and safe water services** to communities, health facilities and schools facing water insecurity, through the rehabilitation of existing water systems and construction of new water systems including solar-powered multi-use water systems that apply an integrated livelihood and domestic water use approach to build resilient communities.
- Build the **capacity of district authorities to apply risk-informed approaches** to plan, implement and sustainably manage climate-resilient WASH services.
- **Increase water storage capacity** at community and

institution levels, especially for urban areas where water supply is intermittent (reservoirs, tanks, etc).

- Strengthen **effective coordination** mechanisms at the national and sub-national levels, with links to Health and Nutrition coordination arrangements and the Department of Civil Protection on critical inter-sectoral issues.
- Provide WASH-related **hygiene supplies** (water treatment chemicals, safe water storage containers, soap, etc.) to vulnerable families in drought-affected districts, especially to those in districts with high malnutrition rates.
- Strengthen **oversight and adherence to technical construction and management standards** to enable resilient water supply systems (ie pump testing, minimum water yields for development, 'secure' casing, sanitary seals, informed depths, etc.).
- **Promote safe hygiene and sanitation practices and water conservation** through established community health and hygiene mechanisms as well as mass media.
- Improve the use of **basic sanitation services** for households and institutions in affected districts.

Response Indicator	Baseline	Target
1. Number of people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs	0	1,100,000
2. Number of people reached with key hygiene behaviour change messages	0	2,600,000
3. Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies	0	1,500,000

## 4.10 Refugee Response



PEOPLE IN NEED		PEOPLE TARGETED		REQUIREMENTS (USD)	PARTNERS	PROJECTS
16k		16k		\$826k	2	1
% MEN	% WOMEN	% BOYS	% GIRLS	% OLDER MEN	% OLDER WOMEN	% PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
27.9%	22.2%	24.6%	23.6%	0.8%	1%	1.8%

### Context of the Crisis in the Sector

The Tongogara Refugee Settlement is in a natural agro-ecological region; hence the area is already drought prone. This situation is exacerbated by the El Niño drought. The area will be more acutely affected and less able to respond to the shock.

The 2023 UNHCR-ZIMSTAT Results Monitoring Survey revealed that the proportion of persons living in habitable housing at the Tongogara Refugee Settlement was 16.2 per cent. Shelter is key to protection against harmful effects of natural elements, human induced dangers, disease and provides for right to privacy, security, and dignified living.

### People in Need and Targeted for Assistance

The assistance aims to target 16,183 refugees and the host community, to ensure continued peaceful coexistence between the people displaced and their host communities. During the March cash and in-kind distribution at the settlement, there were reports of increased presence of people from the host community looking for jobs to be paid using the in-kind benefit that the forcibly displaced community receives, showing the already visible effects of drought.

### Cost of Response

This appeal has been aligned with the country-level interagency drought appeal.

Immediate needs include: the provision of lifesaving services including nutrition, water and sanitation, healthcare, as well as responding to protection impacts in the refugee

settlement. Multi-purpose cash-based assistance will be used to address needs, where relevant and feasible. Life-saving initial assistance for new refugees at the reception centres in Tongogara Refugee Settlement will be strengthened. The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) is appealing for **US\$730,000** to respond to the immediate needs of more than 16,000 targeted refugees in Tongogara Refugee Settlement, along with their host communities in ward 5 and 16.

### Monitoring

Monitoring of the interventions by both UNHCR and implementing partners will be coordinated by UNHCR through its monitoring and evaluation team with support from the multi-functional team.

### Sector Response Strategy

The regional food security and nutrition situation, considering erratic rains caused by El Niño, has negatively impacted people displaced and host communities alike, who supplement their food rations with agricultural activities. Water sources are threatened, livelihoods have been decimated, and rising prices are eroding the purchasing power of refugees' monthly entitlements. These populations are already suffering from a dramatic reduction in humanitarian assistance due to funding shortfalls, coupled with the global economic crisis.

Chipinge District in Manicaland Province hosts over 16,183 refugees and asylum seekers at Tongogara Refugee Settlement. The settlement is a government institution under the Ministry of Public Service, Labour, and Social Welfare under the Department of Social Development. There is consensus that the sector will use existing channels to strengthen

protection as well as strengthen capacities. The settlement should adopt water harvesting strategies to ensure wise use of water. These strategies will help promote kitchen gardens, both in the refugee settlement and the host community.

The sector will ensure protection services are available for drought-impacted women, children, and adolescents, including welfare, justice, and security-related services. In alignment with the IASC centrality of protection policy and the "leaving no one behind" principle from the 2030 agenda, all partners engaged in drought response bear the responsibility of guaranteeing that their actions do not exacerbate the vulnerability of communities to risks such as violence, insecurity, extortion, and exploitation.

To address immediate needs, GBV service providers will focus on case management, psychosocial support (PSS), and integrated Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH). In addition, partners will provide dignity kits to women and girls of reproductive age. The emergency response aims to return children to learning environments quickly, to minimize the disruption to education, reduce the likelihood of dropouts, and to provide protective environments for refugee children. The response will use a standardized emergency package that aims at minimizing the disruption caused by conflicts and prepares children for the transition into longer-term learning pathways.

Activities will be structured to benefit all communities, including local communities, and forcibly displaced populations, addressing their unique needs and considering potential barriers related to gender, age, disability, or ethnicity. Moreover, proactive measures will be taken to mitigate the risks of violence that droughts could incite.

As mitigatory measures to water shortage in the settlement, there is an urgent need to drill and solarize another borehole at a new site to add to the network. Further, it is imperative to expand the current holding capacity by an additional 50,000 liters. At the household level, additional storage containers will help guarantee minimum available portable domestic water.

Enrollment of school-going children into secondary school (especially upper secondary) has been reduced, due to resource constraints that limit the possibility to pay school fees. Children dropouts will likely increase, as they look for jobs to supplement the households' income. The drought will have a devastating effect on the current livelihood options

for the people displaced and host communities, that typically supplement the assistance they receive. In a bid to ensure that refugees and host communities respond to and cope with the shock, people need to be assisted with activities that will help them recover from such shocks. UNHCR and partners will support targeted refugees and host community with recovery activities such as the provision of input packages. This will target refugees whose livelihoods are reliant on micro enterprises and will be done ensuring they manage to stock for and restart their businesses. There may be outbreaks of diseases during the period of drought and it is important to ensure that the settlement is prepared to respond to any.

#### List of the Key Activities:

1. Provide **cash grants to refugees who are in micro enterprises** and the injection cash into selected households through cash for work activities, provide agricultural inputs to support the cycles of production post drought (maize and sugar beans).
2. **Nutrition supplement** for people with special needs such as the elderly, new arrivals and the chronically ill and provide wet feeding for under five's.
3. **Water systems maintenance and expansion of water networks** in the TRS community and schools-mobile emergency water supply and water storage.
4. Deliver timely emergency assistance by ensuring **access to life-saving specialized services for gender-based violence** (GBV) survivors, persons with disability, and child protect cases, as well as core relief items (CRI) and shelter, using cash as the preferred modality.
5. Provide shelter to house **newly arrived refugees**, as well as repair and Refurbishment kits to households.
6. **PSEA through setting up of community-based complaint mechanisms**, improving access to survivor assistance, and capacity building of staff, partners, and the community.
7. **Early recovery and Provision of agricultural inputs** to support the cycles of production post drought (maize and sugar beans).

# Part 5: Annexes

---

## BUDIRORO DISTRICT

A community member receiving hygiene kit.

Photo: © UNICEF



## Projects

SECTOR	LEAD ORGANIZATION	IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET (US\$)
Education	UNICEF & Save the Children	Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and cluster members	Response to El Nino impact on education sector in Zimbabwe	12,090,268
Education	UNHCR	Terres Des Hommes		100,000
Food Security	FAO/UNDP/WFP	MoA and NGOs	Investment in irrigation and development of agribusiness capacities in drought prone/affected areas	43,000,000
Food Security	FAO	TBA	Integrated Drought risk Management for protection of rural livelihoods in Zimbabwe	40,810,032
Food Security	WFP	TBC	WFP Zimbabwe CSP 2022-2026 (SO1 - Food and nutrition insecure populations in targeted rural and urban areas meet their food and nutrition needs / Lean Season Assistance component)	154,000,000
Food Security	WFP	TBC	WFP Zimbabwe CSP 2022-2026 (SO1 - Food and nutrition insecure populations in targeted rural and urban areas meet their food and nutrition needs / Urban Cash Assistance component)	47,000,000
Food Security	UNICEF	World Vision, GOAL	Continuation and Expansion of Social Protection Coverage in five El Nino affected districts	28,000,000
Food Security	FAO/WFP	MoA and Private Sector	Strengthening agric sales and market linkages including engagement of the private sector	3,000,000
Food Security	FAO/ILO/UNDP	MoSW, MoA and NGOs	Development of critical rural infrastructure and human capacities using a conditional transfer approach	4,000,000
Health	World Health Organization	FAO, World Vision	Zimbabwe Health Cluster: Strengthening Resilience and Response to El Niño	13,000,000
Health	UNICEF	UNICEF		3,500,000
Health	UNHCR	World Vision		80,000
Health	UNFPA	MoHCC, Adult Rape Clinic, Family Support Trust	Strengthening access to SRH/Emergency Obstetric Care services and coordination in drought affected districts in Zimbabwe	4,000,000
Nutrition	UNICEF	World Vision, NAZ, GOAL, ACF, IMC, Save the Children, WFP	Prevention of malnutrition, and early detection and treatment of wasting	26,950,000
Nutrition	WHO	World Vision, FNC, WFP	Addressing malnutrition in the context of El Nino, through Screening, Surveillance and Case Management	3,675,000
Nutrition	UNHCR	Terres Des Hommes		25,000
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	MoPCLSW, Bantwana, REPSSI, Council of Social Workers	Strengthening child protection systems. Child protection systems are functional and strengthened to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices	20,000
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	MoPCLSW, Bantwana, REPSSI, Council of Social Workers	Strengthening child protection systems. Child protection systems are functional and strengthened to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices	1,150,000



SECTOR	LEAD ORGANIZATION	IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET (US\$)
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	Registrar General - Civil Registry Department, MoHCC, MoPSLSW, MoLocal Government	Strengthening child protection systems Child protection systems are functional and strengthened to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices	100,000
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	MoPSLSW, Musasa Project, Family Support Trust	Strengthening child protection systems Child protection systems are functional and strengthened to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices	50,000
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	MoPSLSW, Nutrition, REPSSI, Bantwana	Support integrated social protection, child protection and nutrition systems	150,000
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	MoPSLSW, Zimbabwe Parents of Handicapped Children, TDH Italy, REPSSI, Musasa Project, Family Support Trust	Community engagement for behaviour and social change At-risk and affected populations have timely access to culturally appropriate, Sex- and age-sensitive information and interventions, to prevent and respond to violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect and harmful practices	280,000
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	MoPSLSW, REPSSI	Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) MHPSS needs of children and caregivers are identified and addressed through coordinated multisectoral and community-based MHPSS services	500,000
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	MoPSLSW, Zimbabwe Parents of Handicapped Children, TDH Italy, REPSSI, Musasa Project, Family Support Trust	Gender-based Violence (GBV) and Violence Against Children (VAC) Survivors of GBV and their children can access timely, quality, multisectoral response services and GBV is prevented"	50,000
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	MoPSLSW, Simukai, Bantwana	Unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) Separation of children from families is prevented and responded to, and family-based care is promoted in the child's best interest	200,000
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	MoPSLSW	Leadership and coordination Effective leadership and coordination are established and functional	47,022
Protection - Child Protection	UNICEF	MoPSLSW	Leadership and coordination Effective leadership and coordination are established and functional	10,700
Protection - Child Protection	UNHCR	Terres Des Hommes		25,000
Protection - Gender Based Violence	UNFPA	Musasa, World Vision, CARE International, Adult Rape Clinic, Family Support (FST)	Strengthening GBV risk mitigation, prevention, access to multisectoral services and coordination in drought affected districts in Zimbabwe	5,000,000
Protection - Gender Based Violence	UNHCR	Terres Des Hommes		30,000
Protection - Gender Based Violence	UN Women	Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare WFP and its partners	Engendering Drought Response in Zimbabwe	400,000
Protection - General Protection	UNHCR	Terres Des Hommes		25,000
Shelter	IOM		Enhancing multi-sectoral assistance to El Nino affected populations in Zimbabwe	1,600,000
Shelter	UNHCR	Department of social development		150,000
WASH	UNHCR	World Vision		71,000
WASH	Mercy Corps	Mercy Corps	Mashonaland East-El-Nino Response	421,500

SECTOR	LEAD ORGANIZATION	IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS	PROJECT TITLE	BUDGET (US\$)
WASH	Care International	Care International	Eli-Nino Emergency Response in Masvingo and Manicaland( Mutare,Buhera, Zaka & Chivi District)	950,000
WASH	Action Contre La Faim (ACF)	Africa AHEAD (AA)	Masvingo and Midlands Emergency Response	492,405
WASH	International Medical Corps	International Medical Corps (IMC)	Emergency intervention to improve Water,Sanitation and Hygiene(WASH) Access in Matabeleland South and Matabeleland North provinces	3,000,000
WASH	OXFAM	OXFAM	Midlands Province WASH emergency response	700 000
WASH	CAFOD	Caritas Chinhoyi, Caritas Gokwe	Drought Response Appeal	300,000
WASH	CAFOD	Caritas Gokwe/Caritas Gweru/Caritas Mutare	Drought and Cholera Response	500,000
WASH	Africa AHEAD	Africa AHEAD (AA)	Bulawayo and Matebeland North- El Nino WASH Emergency Response	522,340
WASH	GOAL	GOAL	Harare Metropolitan El Nino WASH Emergency Response Project	547, 650
WASH	Mvuramanzi Trust	Mvuramanzi Trust	WASH Emergency Respose to El Nino induced drought in Mt Darwin and UMP districts, Zimbabwe.	640,300
WASH	ADRA	ADRA Zimbabwe	Accelerating Water Accessibility While Improving Sanitation and Hygiene of Communities in Zimbabwe	833,950
WASH	CRS	Caritas Hwange	Improved and safe Access to WASH service for affected populations of Matabeleland North Province. 2024 Drought Appeal	450,220
WASH	Welthungerhilfe (WHH)	Welthungerhilfe	WASH Emergency Response and Resilience building in Elnino affected districts, in Mashonaland Central, Midlands and Matabeleland South	1,057,075
WASH	CRS	Caritas Harare	Improved and safe Access to WASH service for affected populations of Matabeleland South Province. 2024 Drought Appeal	476,779
WASH	Farm Community Trust of Zimbabwe	Farm Community Trust of Zimbabwe	WASH emergency Response and Resilience building in Elnino, in Mashonaland West	350,000
WASH	UNHCR	World Vision, Terre Des Hommes	Improving WASH Services for Refugees in Zimbabwe, Manicaland - 2024 Drought Appeal	320,000
WASH	CRS	Caritas Bulawayo	Improved and safe Access to WASH service for affected populations of Mashonaland East Province. 2024 Drought Appeal	432,881
WASH	UNICEF	Mercy Corps, Oxfam, GOAL, Christian Care, Africa Ahead, WHH	Securing climate resilient and safe WASH services for drought-affected districts	23,852,550
Coordination and Common Services	IOM	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Wild Life	Mainstreaming Migration Into Environment Policy and Adaptation Strategies in Zimbabwe.	300,000
Coordination and Common Services	IOM		Displacement Tracking and Technical Assitance by IOM	450,000
Coordination and Common Services	OCHA		Zimbabwe Drought Response Coordination	300,000

## Acronyms

<b>AAP</b>	Accountability to Affected People	<b>RIASCO</b>	Regional Interagency Standing Committee, Southern Africa
<b>ACF</b>	Action Against Hunger	<b>RIMA</b>	Result Index Measure and Analysis
<b>ADRA</b>	The Adventist Development and Relief Agency	<b>RRTs</b>	Rapid Response Teams
<b>AGD</b>	Age, Gender Diversity	<b>RUTF</b>	Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods
<b>CAFOD</b>	the Catholic Agency For Overseas Development	<b>SAM</b>	Severe Acute Malnutrition
<b>CBT</b>	Cash Based Transfers	<b>SBC</b>	Social and Behavior Change
<b>CCCM</b>	Camp Coordination and Camp Management	<b>SMART</b>	Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions
<b>CCWs</b>	Community Childcare Workers	<b>SRH</b>	Sexual Reproductive Health
<b>CFRM</b>	Community Feedback and Response Mechanisms	<b>STI</b>	Sexually Transmitted Infection
<b>CLAFA</b>	Crop, Livestock and Fisheries Assessment	<b>TB</b>	Tuberculosis
<b>CPC</b>	Child Protection Committees	<b>TDH</b>	Terre des Hommes
<b>CPIe</b>	Child Protection in Emergencies	<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>CRI</b>	Core Relief Items	<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>CRS</b>	Catholic Relief Services	<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organization	<b>WASH</b>	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
<b>DCP</b>	Department of Civil Protection	<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>DTM</b>	Displacement Tracking Matrix	<b>ZimLAC</b>	Zimbabwe Livelihoods Assessment Committee
<b>DVS</b>	Department of Veterinary Services	<b>ZimVac</b>	Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee
<b>EMIS</b>	Education Management Information Statistics		
<b>ERH</b>	Emergency Reproductive Health		
<b>FAO</b>	The Food and Agriculture Organization		
<b>FS</b>	Food Security		
<b>GBV</b>	Gender Based Violence		
<b>GBViE</b>	Gender Based Violence in Emergencies		
<b>GoZ</b>	Government of Zimbabwe		
<b>HCT</b>	Humanitarian Country Team		
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus		
<b>IASC</b>	Inter-Agency Standing Committee		
<b>IDPs</b>	Internally Displaced People		
<b>IEC</b>	Information Education and Communication		
<b>INGO</b>	International Non-Governmental Organization		
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration		
<b>IYCF</b>	Infant and Young Child Feeding		
<b>JIAF</b>	Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework		
<b>LPD</b>	Livestock Production and Development		
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation		
<b>MHPSS</b>	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support		
<b>MICS</b>	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey		
<b>MISP</b>	Minimum Initial Service Package		
<b>MLAFWRD</b>	Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development		
<b>MNP</b>	Multiple Micronutrient Powder		
<b>MoHCC</b>	Ministry of Health and Child Care		
<b>MoPSE</b>	Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education		
<b>MoPSLSW</b>	Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare		
<b>MPSLSW</b>	Ministry of Public Service, Labor and Social Welfare		
<b>MUAC</b>	Mid Upper Arm Circumference		
<b>NAZ</b>	Nutrition Action Zimbabwe		
<b>NFIs</b>	Non-Food Items		
<b>NNGO</b>	National Non-Governmental Organization		
<b>OCHA</b>	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs		
<b>PDM</b>	Post Distribution Monitoring		
<b>PIN</b>	People in Need		
<b>PSEA</b>	Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse		
<b>PSS</b>	Psychosocial Support		
<b>REPSSI</b>	Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative		

# How to Contribute

## Contribute Towards Zimbabwe Flash Appeal

Donors can contribute directly to aid organizations participating in the international humanitarian coordination mechanisms in Zimbabwe, as identified in this Flash Appeal.

## Contribute through the Central Emergency Response Fund

CERF is a fast and effective way to support rapid humanitarian response. CERF provides immediate funding for life-saving humanitarian action at the onset of emergencies and for crises that have not attracted sufficient funding. Contributions are received year-round.

[www.unocha.org/cerf/donate](http://www.unocha.org/cerf/donate)

## About

This document is consolidated by OCHA on behalf of the Zimbabwe Humanitarian Country Team and partners. It provides a shared understanding of the crisis, including the most pressing humanitarian need and the estimated number of people who need assistance. It represents a consolidated evidence base and helps inform joint strategic response planning.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in the report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

## Get the latest updates



OCHA coordinates humanitarian action to ensure crisis-affected people receive the assistance and protection they need. It works to overcome obstacles that impede humanitarian assistance from reaching people affected by crises, and provides leadership in mobilizing assistance and resources on behalf of the humanitarian system.

[www.unocha.org](http://www.unocha.org)

[twitter:@unocha\\_rosea](https://twitter.com/unocha_rosea)

### Humanitarian Action

ANALYSING NEEDS AND RESPONSE

Humanitarian Action offers a comprehensive overview of the humanitarian landscape. It provides the latest verified information on needs and delivery of the humanitarian response as well as financial contributions.

[humanitarianaction.info](http://humanitarianaction.info)

### rw response

ReliefWeb Response is part of OCHA's commitment to the humanitarian community to ensure that relevant information in humanitarian emergencies is available to facilitate situational understanding and decision-making. This is the next generation of the Humanitarian Response platform.

[response.reliefweb.int/zimbabwe](https://response.reliefweb.int/zimbabwe)



The Financial Tracking Service (FTS) is the leading provider of continuously updated data on global humanitarian funding, and is a major contributor to strategic decision-making by highlighting gaps and priorities, thus contributing to effective, efficient and principled humanitarian aid.

<https://fts.unocha.org/countries/250/summary/2024>

**FLASH APPEAL**  
ZIMBABWE